



SAN BRUNO CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

January 13, 2004

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT:

The San Bruno City Council met in Regular Session at the San Bruno Senior Center at 1555 Crystal Springs Road. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Recorded by City Clerk Simon, present were Mayor Franzella, presiding; Vice Mayor O'Connell, Councilmembers Ibarra, Pallas, and Ruane.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Franzella asked **Police Chief Violet** to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Franzella thanked the **San Bruno Garden Club** for the lovely floral arrangement that they provided for tonight's meeting.

PRESENTATIONS:

Bay Area Water Users Association (BAWUA) annual water awareness contest winner, **Hannah Phan**, a sixth grade student at Highlands Christian School, was presented with a mounted copy of the 2004 poster and a check. Her teacher Ms. Castillo also received a check. Vice Mayor O'Connell made the presentation and commended the hard work that goes into this program, stressing that conservation is key. Mayor Franzella thanked all the schools, teachers and students who participated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. **San Bruno Redevelopment Agency** meeting follows tonight's City Council meeting. Alternative uses of the Redevelopment Agency property located at 470 San Mateo Avenue (former Wells Fargo Bank site) will be discussed.
- b. **Introduction** of new employees **Thomas Williams**, Community Development Director and **Tenzin Gyaltzen**, CATV Director.

REVIEW OF AGENDA: no changes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Council meeting of December 9, 2003, approved as submitted.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

- a. **Approve: Payroll** of December 5, and 19, 2003, and January 2, 2004.
- b. **Approve: Accounts Payable** of December 1, 8, 15, and 29, 2003. (Council Packets only, copies are available for review at the City Clerk's office).
- c. **Accept: Reconciliation of General Ledger** to bank reports and the **Investment** reports dated November 30, 2003, by City Treasurer Karen Hornung.
- d. **Approve:** Second reading and introduction of minor amendments to San Bruno Ordinance No. 1667 **Establishing a Culture & Arts Commission**. Amends Section 9.32.040 (TERMS) allowing for staggered terms and Section 9.32.110 (Ex-Officio Members) allowing the City Manager to

designate an ex-officio non-voting staff member. Ordinance also makes non-substantive change by re-designating to a different chapter.

- e. **Accept:** Resignation letter from Paula Johnsen Chair of the **Community Preparedness Committee** who will be moving out of San Bruno. Authorize City Clerk to post Notice of Vacancy.
- f. **Approve:** Revisions to the **San Bruno Crime Prevention Committee** By-Laws as recommended by Chair Susan Morton and approved by committee members December 11, 2003.
- g. **Approve:** Donation of \$1000 from Cable TV Account 6641-519 to “**Capuchino High School Grad Night 2004**”, for sponsorship of a safe, secure, drug, and alcohol free program.
- h. **Approve:** Authorize the City Manager to expend \$22,122 to fund the **North Peninsula Family Alternative Juvenile Diversion Program** for the second half of this fiscal year.

M/S Ruane/O’Connell, to approve the Consent Calendar. Passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: (NOTICES were published, posted and mailed)

Public hearing to consider adopting resolution authorizing the City/County Association of Governments (C/CAG) to apply for re-issuance of the **Municipal Stormwater National Pollution System (NPDES)** permit on behalf of the City of San Bruno. Public Works Director Scott Munns recommended that the Council accept and adopt the San Mateo Countywide Stormwater Management Plan for 2004-2009. **Public Works Deputy Director Merrill Buck** gave an overview of the item and showed slides highlighting the five key components within the Stormwater Management Plan. He and Public Works Director Scott Munns answered questions.

Robert Riechel, 7th Ave., thanked Public Works staff for their continued concerns and efforts in the approaching completion of the Cupid Row & 7th Avenue canal situation.

M/S Ibarra/Ruane, to close the Public Hearing. Passed unanimously.

Councilmember O’Connell introduced Resolution 2004-1 for adoption. Passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Notice of upcoming public hearing January 27, 2004

Mayor Franzella noted that the San Bruno City Council would consider a resolution amending the Master Fee Schedule, which is a listing of fees charged for City services other than utilities.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

City Manager Jackson recommended that the Council receive and approve the FY 2003-04 Budget and Reorganization Plan containing recommendations to address the projected General Fund Operating Budget deficit. She outlined some of the details found in this recommendation and invited the Council to ask questions or give direction to staff to reconsider any of the items in the report. She stated that at the January 27th meeting, staff will return with follow-up implementation items, which were discussed at the December 15th Council Study Session. She asked Acting Fire Chief Dan Voreyer to make comments, addressing questions that have arisen regarding the Fire Department’s recommendations. She also recognized the work done in this difficult situation, commending the departments and particularly Director of Finance Jim O’Leary.

Acting Fire Chief Dan Voreyer explained what a “Brown Out” is in relation to the departments proposed revision in this plan. He also outlined some of the actions taken by the department since the December 15th Study Session, in the effort to meet the department’s budget deficit reduction goal.

Scott Buschman, Claremont Dr., appreciates how hard these cuts have been on each department and supports those cuts that may only inconvenience citizens, but considers the possibility of a “Brown Out” in the Fire Department a great concern. He opposes it stating, there is potential for loss of life.

Gary Fleming, Emaron Dr., recalled that when we financed the remodeling of City Hall and construction of the new Police Station, certificates of participation were used. He asked if that debt could be restructured by passing a bond allowing it to be paid through property taxes, saving enough to cover some of the proposed reductions in City services.

Michael Kennedy, San Bruno Firefighters Association, stressed that the priority of the association is to provide the best emergency service to the City and maximum amount of safety for the firefighters. Therefore, the possible “Browning Out” of one of the engines is the source of significant concern that citizens will be negatively impacted, raising several key points. Suggesting instead, that additional revenues be brought in somehow or other departments make further cuts than those already proposed. Mr. Kennedy introduced Tim Washington to speak on behalf of the firefighters.

Tim Washington, Longview Dr., recently experienced a heart attack and was resuscitated by the Fire Department; he spoke in support of the Fire Department to emphasize the importance of response time.

Rico Medina, Green Ave., stated he understands that cuts need to be made across the board in all departments. He is also concerned about the potential for increased response time by the Fire Department, and urged the Council to carefully consider all the options in this matter.

Councilmember Ibarra asked, with proposed cuts of \$150,000 from the Fire Department and \$500,000 from the Police Department, would it be possible to instead take the money from the reserves and then deal with this in six months?

City Manager Jackson said Chief Violet is prepared to make comments about police cuts if the Council has questions. The City reserve fund currently has a balance of \$3,000,000 and was developed to meet any increases in the PERS expense to the City. The PERS retirement cost has increased by \$500,000 this year and we are using some of this reserve to offset the cost. She cautioned against using these funds since they are all the City has to protect the City from unknown contingencies. Use of this reserve could put us in a position of bankruptcy and we must guard against this possibility.

Councilmember Pallas said selling the Wells Fargo site and using the money to balance our budget is a solution without using the reserve money and keeping the Fire Department at the same service level.

Mayor Franzella clarified, those monies obtained from the sale of redevelopment property could not be used for general funds and operating expenses of the City. In addition, we all need to step to the plate, a bankrupt City cannot deliver any services. We need to get these cuts in place. We have done everything to minimize the cuts and the staff has done an outstanding job with this reduction program and it is very reasonable.

Councilmember Pallas stated that some of our financial problems were caused by bad decisions such as remodeling City Hall, constructing the new Police Building with BART, buying the Wells Fargo site, and the grade separation will be just another mistake.

Mayor Franzella responded, that life does not allow us to go back and undo mistakes and we must deal with what is before us now.

Councilmember Ruane commended the staff, knowing it is not easy to make cuts in all the departments including the Fire Department. Our employees know what we must do. While some may feel we made mistakes he believes that many positive things have been accomplished with slim management

and slim personnel. We must continue to be lean and efficient and we will get through these difficult times. This plan will give us a better foundation for the future.

Vice Mayor O’Connell said she has confidence that Acting Fire Chief Voreyer will ensure the best service and response time. The Fire Department has already saved \$45,000 by restructuring vacation time and will be creative and find ways to meet these reductions. She asked if there would be lay offs?

City Manager Jackson said we have been very pro-active and maintained vacancies. In the Police Department for example, there are more vacancies than proposed frozen positions. There will be a few positions, which must be dealt with, and it is her intent to bring back at the next Council meeting a Voluntary Staff Reduction Program for Council approval. If for some reason this program is not successful there could be a potential for layoffs.

Mayor Franzella asked Finance Director O’Leary to respond to a citizen suggestion to restructure the Certificates of Participation. Mr. O’Leary said these certificates have a 10-year call protection and this option is not available.

Councilmember Pallas questioned why the City Clerk was recommending a \$250 increase to the Fireworks permit stand fees and increasing the BINGO fees from \$100 to \$250 for non-profits playing more than once per month. **Clerk Simon** responded by reviewing the recommended fee increases.

Mayor Franzella advised Councilmember Pallas that the fee increase would be on the next City Council agenda with a public hearing for amendments to the Master Fee Schedule.

Acting Fire Chief Voreyer explained how he would implement the taking of equipment out of service and how it affects our neighboring Cities.

Councilmember Ibarra introduced Resolution 2004-2 authorizing the City Manager to implement the FY 2003-04 Budget and Reorganization Plan. Passed by the following majority vote: Councilmembers Ibarra, O’Connell, Ruane and Mayor Franzella – Yes. Councilmember Pallas – No.

CALL FOR, PRESENTATION OF BIDS, and AWARD OF CONTRACTS:

a. Public Works Director Munns recommended that the Council:

1. Award contract for construction of the Connection C-1 Pressure Regulating Station Project to the lowest responsible bidder, **Shaw Pipeline**, in the amount of \$55,500. **Public Works Deputy Director Bradshaw** explained this would give us more flexibility in how we use our local water.
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute a construction contract upon approval as to form by the City Attorney;
3. Approve a transfer of \$27,000 from the SCADA Phase II project to the Connection C-1 Pressure Regulating Station project; and
4. Authorize the expenditure of \$72,000 in project funds as outlined in the staff report for the completion of the project.

M/S Ruane/Ibarra, to approve the recommendation. Passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

STAFF REPORTS: None

REPORT OF CITY ATTORNEY - RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES: None

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA:

Robert Riechel, 7th Ave., reported that during heavy rain storms at least two residents in the 500 block of 7th Ave., had sewer water back up onto their front yards from a recently installed sewer flapper. He and

Deputy Public Works Director Bradshaw have discussed re-distributing the notice on proper use of these flappers and also having City staff re-check the flappers making sure that they are correctly set. Mr. Riechel notes that the main concern still needing resolution is preventing surface water run-off from entering the sewer system causing it to overflow.

Lou Grisell, San Juan Ave., stated that there is grant money available and that the City of San Bruno could benefit from such funding. He is with a group called Concerned Citizens of San Bruno, and they are in training to be grant writers. He hopes to give a presentation at the next City Council meeting.

Mayor Franzella asked Mr. Grisell to submit his request in writing to the City Clerk.

Andy Chang, 4th Ave., is the Director of the Cultural Awareness Committee with the Concerned Citizens of San Bruno Group, and they would like to perform **Lion Dancing** at City Hall for the New Lunar Year celebration, which begins on January 22nd for many Asian families here in San Bruno.

Mayor Franzella asked Mr. Chang to submit his request in writing to the City Clerk.

Rose Urbach, Euclid Ave., she asked when the City Council chambers would be restored to City Hall.

Mayor Franzella answered that with the current budget concerns, he has no idea when this will occur. Mrs. Urbach also suggested that City staff check on the sewer line replacement project under way on Sneath Lane and asked how many apartments were being built at the former Navy site and would they eventually be converted to condominiums. **Mayor Franzella responded that there is no way to predict what may or may not happen in the future with regard to this development.**

REPORT OF COMMISSIONS, BOARDS, & COMMITTEES:

Receive and approve the **Gaming Club City Council Ad Hoc Committee** (Franzella/Ibarra) recommendations regarding continuation of **Artichoke Joe's Casino** reduced authorized number of tables subject to City tax.

This item was deferred to a future City Council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilmember Pallas requested a staff report on “**Chloramine Conversion**” which is scheduled for Feb 2, 2004, be placed on the next City Council agenda. With Council concurrence, staff was directed to have a presentation prepared for the next Council meeting January 27, 2004.

CLOSED SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. to the next regular City Council meeting on, Tuesday January 27, 2004, at 7:00 pm at the San Bruno Senior Center, located at 1555 Crystal Springs Road. Following adjournment, the City Council reconvened at 9:05 p.m. as the **San Bruno Redevelopment Agency.**

Respectfully submitted for approval at
the regular City Council Meeting of
January 27, 2004.

Ed Simon, City Clerk

Larry Franzella, Mayor